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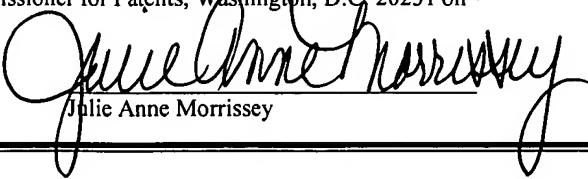
**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
TRANSMITTAL**

Docket No. A0420/7017P1

Applicant: John C. Pulford and Marco Pelosi  
Serial No: 10/828,538  
Filed: April 20, 2004  
For: ABDOMINAL RETRCTOR  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Art Unit: 3732

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on August 17, 2004.

  
Julie Anne Morrissey

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Transmitted herewith for filing is the following:**

**Enclosures**

- Preliminary Amendment
- Petition for a month Extension of Time
- Return Receipt Postcard
- Other:

**Small Entity**

- Applicant/assignee claims small entity status.
- Small entity status is no longer claimed.

**Fees**

<b>Claims as Filed</b>					
	Claims Filed	Highest Number Paid for	Number of Extra Claims	Rate	Additional Fees Due
Total Claims (37 CFR §1.16(c))	29	- 20 =	9 X	\$18.00 =	\$ 162.00
Independent Claims (37 CFR §1.16(b))	3	- 3 =	0 X	\$86.00 =	\$ 0.00
<b>Extension Fee</b>					<b>\$ 0.00</b>
<b>Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity</b>					<b>\$ 81.00</b>
<b>Total Filing Fee</b>					<b><u>\$ 81.00</u></b>

**Payment**

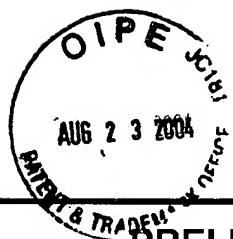
Check in the amount of \$81.00 the total filing fee.

**Authorization to Charge Additional Fees**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and §1.17 required by the attached paper and during the entire pendency of this application to Account No. 02-3038.

Philip L Conrad  
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Date: August 17, 2004



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**Before conducting examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments:**

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.

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